

River Outdoor Learning Experience Project:



The Golf Course Proposal



Objective: To use all of the data and knowledge from your river labs and studies to assess and make scientific data based recommendations for a proposed hypothetical project and ultimately create a written report to share with the community (hypothetical community, of course!).

Proposal: Imagine that a group is proposing buying a huge block of land at the head of the Cedar River (not too far from Landsburg Dam). The group plans to put in a top notch, championship level Golf Course. All of the forested area will be cut and sold as timber, and the field will all be turned into a beautiful, lush green 18 hole golf course, complete with a brand new Country Club and Restaurant. The land includes a mile stretch of the Cedar River, which runs up through all of the proposed playing field. The group is proposing to have a series of small bridges for golfers to cross over the river at several points.

Task: You represent the County Water Quality Board. You have been asked to write a report to the zoning commission in which you will give your recommendations and reasons. Your report should draw on and include TWO sources of information: 1) the actual data from the BMI and Chemistry River Labs you collected data for and 2) all the scientific information about water quality that you have learned. Remember that you have data and or information on basic water quality, benthic macroinvertebrates, discharge, household hazardous waste and riparian zones. Be sure to draw on your knowledge and cite data from these areas to support your recommendation.

Report Requirements: Your recommendation in your report should include the following sections:

- The Current Health of the Cedar River
- Possible Impacts of the Proposed Project on the Cedar River
- Your Recommendations



The New Neighborhood Proposal



Objective: To use all of the data and knowledge from your river labs and studies to assess and make scientific data based recommendations for a proposed hypothetical project and ultimately create a written report to share with the community (hypothetical community, of course!).

Proposal: Imagine that a group is proposing buying a huge block of land at the head of the Cedar River (not too far from Landsburg Dam). The group plans to put in a new neighborhood of houses, totaling 175 new homes. All of the forested area will be cut and sold as timber, and the field will all be turned into lots for these houses, a playground, paved sidewalks and streets. The land includes a mile stretch of the Cedar River, which runs along side of a majority of the housing tract. The group is

proposing to have about 20 of the lots bordering the river itself, which will be considered “view homes” and sell for a higher price.

Task: You represent the County Water Quality Board. You have been asked to write a report to the zoning commission in which you will give your recommendations and reasons. Your report should draw on and include TWO sources of information: 1) the actual data from the BMI and Chemistry River Labs you collected data for and 2) all the scientific information about water quality that you have learned. Remember that you have data and or information on basic water quality, benthic macroinvertebrates, discharge, household hazardous waste and riparian zones. Be sure to draw on your knowledge and cite data from these areas to support your recommendation.

Report Requirements: Your recommendation in your report should include the following sections:

- The Current Health of the Cedar River
- Possible Impacts of the Proposed Project on the Cedar River
- Your Recommendations



The Cattle Pasture Proposal

Objective: To use all of the data and knowledge from your river labs and studies to assess and make scientific data based recommendations for a proposed hypothetical project and ultimately create a written report to share with the community (hypothetical community, of course!).

Proposal: Imagine that a group is proposing buying a huge block of land at the head of the Cedar River (not too far from Landsburg Dam). The group plans to put in a large cattle operation. All of the forested area will be cut and sold as timber, and the field will all be turned into cattle pasture. The land includes a mile stretch of the Cedar River, which runs up through all of the proposed fields. The group is proposing to let the cattle roam into the Cedar River for water, but will keep them well penned within the pasture area most of the time.

Task: You represent the County Water Quality Board. You have been asked to write a report to the zoning commission in which you will give your recommendations and reasons. Your report should draw on and include TWO sources of information: 1) the actual data from the BMI and Chemistry River Labs you collected data for and 2) all the scientific information about water quality that you have learned. Remember that you have data and or information on basic water quality, benthic macroinvertebrates, discharge, household hazardous waste and riparian zones. Be sure to draw on your knowledge and cite data from these areas to support your recommendation.

Report Requirements: Your recommendation in your report should include the following sections:

- The Current Health of the Cedar River
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- Your Recommendations



The New Store Proposal



Objective: To use all of the data and knowledge from your river labs and studies to assess and make scientific data based recommendations for a proposed hypothetical project and ultimately create a written report to share with the community (hypothetical community, of course!).

Proposal: Imagine that a group is proposing buying a huge block of land at the head of the Cedar River (not too far from Landsburg Dam). The group plans to put in a new “Big Box” Store (like Wal-Mart, etc). All of the forested area will be cut and sold as timber, and the field will all be cleared and turned into the space for the huge store and an equally big parking lot to accommodate customers. The land includes a mile stretch of the Cedar River, which runs along side of a majority of the parking lot. The group is proposing to have the area between the parking lot and river paved with a nice “park like” trail, with grass running along the sidewalk trail and some trees and park benches.

Task: You represent the County Water Quality Board. You have been asked to write a report to the zoning commission in which you will give your recommendations and reasons. Your report should draw on and include TWO sources of information: 1) the actual data from the BMI and Chemistry River Labs you collected data for and 2) all the scientific information about water quality that you have learned. Remember that you have data and or information on basic water quality, benthic macroinvertebrates, discharge, household hazardous waste and riparian zones. Be sure to draw on your knowledge and cite data from these areas to support your recommendation.

Report Requirements: Your recommendation in your report should include the following sections:

- The Current Health of the Cedar River
- Possible Impacts of the Proposed Project on the Cedar River
- Your Recommendations

NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

TIPS:

- Your recommendations will not be listened to if facts and data do not back them up. Draw on as much knowledge as you have!!!!
- You are writing to inform the readers. Assume they know very little about water quality
- Make sure your report is well organized, easy to read and double spaced.
- Have someone **EDIT** your first/second draft before you turn your final product in!
- **No PLAGIARISM** This will result in a zero for the entire project.
- Be sure to include references for where you obtained your information.
- Use class time wisely. If you need to work on your final paper further, do so as homework.

Presentation Requirements:

- Present a brief 2-3 minute summary of your recommendations to the class.

If you plan on being absent on the presentation day. You are responsible to arrange an earlier time to present your project.

TIPS:

- Decide what you want to say to the class.
- Develop a script/outline of your presentation
- Presentation should be rehearsed and clear, information should be accurate
- Turn in your script/outline at the end of your presentation

Grading Rubric

Grading scale of 0 – 5: 5 = superior, 4 = acceptable, 3 = needs improvement, 1-2 = fails to meet standard, 0 = a no-show standard ** no ½ points

Written Report:

- Punctuation, grammar, spelling is virtually error free.
- The current health of the Cedar River is accurate and data is given.
- Demonstrates an accurate understanding of the possible impacts of the proposed project on the Cedar River.
- Gives viable recommendations for possible solutions to the problem.
- References are included and all pertinent information is included to locate the source.

Presentation:

- Information is presented clearly and accurately.
- Script/outline is turned in after presentation.

Calendar of Important Dates

_____	Day #1	Go over river trip data Introduction of R.O.L.E. Project Homework: Prepare a written report that communicates the required information.
_____	Day #2	Video "Salmon on the Brink" – discussion, River booklet assignment Peer editing of written report Homework: Work on final report
_____	Day #3	Quiz – BMI's and Riparian Zones River booklets due Journals due (#56-58; River Trip #1 and #2) Homework: Write and rehearse script/outline for presentation.
_____	Day #4	Presentations Evaluation of your own work and classmates work. (An evaluation sheet will be provided on the presentation day).